



Ladies of Grace  
Bible Studies for Women

*A Woman & Her Walk With God Series*

Encouraging Women to Walk With God on the Brighter Side of Life

# A Woman & Her Attitude

*"In every thing gives thanks: for this is the will of God."*

*I Thessalonians 5:18*

This week we are going to talk about what God wants a woman's attitude to be like while she walks with Him in the everyday details of her life. When I first thought of this subject, a picture of a poster that I had seen in a thrift store many years ago came to my mind. On that poster was the picture of a "cool" looking monkey wearing a pair of dark sunglasses and a big grin, and the caption underneath read: ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING. And in a funny sort of way, in the lives of most of us, our attitudes do reveal just about everything that we feel. There is a children's song that says it like this:

*"I have two friends with funny names that sound a lot alike,  
but once you get to know them, they are as different as day and night.  
One is happy all the time and has lots and lots of friends,  
The other always gripes and complains, and well, nobody really likes them.  
You may wonder who they are, and why they act the way they do,  
The difference is the way they see things ~ it's called their Attitude!  
Are you humbly grateful, or grumbly hateful, what's your attitude?  
Do you grumble and moan, or let it be known,  
that you are grateful for all God's done for you?"*

What is attitude? Webster's Dictionary describes the word attitude as "a mental position with regard to a fact or state; a feeling or emotion toward a fact or a state." In other words, our attitude is the way we feel about things, and it is the part of us that expresses our emotions to the world around us, letting them know if we are "humbly grateful" or "grumbly hateful" about it.

As we meet together today, how would you describe your attitude? What is it that you are communicating to the world around you? Is your countenance happy, letting the whole world know that you love life, or is it sad, reminding everyone around you how horrible that you believe that life has been to you? How about your words? Are they positive and uplifting, filled with praise and thanksgiving for the good things that God has done for you? Or are they hateful and negative, leading others to believe that you are one of those Christians that God doesn't really care about. How about the things that you do? Do your actions cleave themselves to doing the will of God, thereby proclaiming the hope that is within you? Or are they filled with disobedience, because of your lack of faith in Him. Our attitudes reveal so much about how we really see God and how we really feel about the things that He has allowed, and is doing in our lives. The words of this simple kids song are a simple reminder to us that the kind of attitude that God wants us to have is one of gratefulness or gratitude for EVERYTHING that He has done for us.

Let me ask you something, do you find it a natural thing to be "humbly grateful" as you speak to others, or are you the kind of woman that just naturally grumbles and moans? Did you know that the Bible commands us to be grateful about **every thing** that has happened to us or comes our way? Believe it or not, it says this in I Thessalonians 5:18, "*In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God.*"

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# *A Woman & Her Walk With God Series*

This sounds like a very tall order . . . *especially as we try to make it in this less than ideal world.* There is so much that so many of us COULD grumble and complain about, isn't there? For starters, there is that less than ideal past, the less than perfect present, and the less than hopeful future to deal with, and if that isn't enough, there is also the husband that disappoints us, the children that unnerve us, the house that is breaking down, and our own health that is falling apart and so much more.

But you know what, in the middle of all of this negative real life living, God is telling us that we need to become a woman that gives thanks for all things. And why would He do this? Because He tells us in I Timothy 6:6 that "*godliness with contentment is great gain,*" and it is the "great gain" in life that God so desperately wants us to experience as we walk with Him.

I believe that there are three areas of our lives that God wants us to learn to be content in. And if we can learn to be content in these three areas, I believe that an attitude of gratitude will easily flow from our hearts for everything else. What are the three areas that God wants us to learn to be content in?

1. **Every experience we have endured in the past.** *Hebrews 13:5-6 says, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, not forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."* God doesn't want us to envy the "good lives" of others, because, believe it or not, everything that has happened to us is exactly what He wanted us to have. Everything? Yes, everything. Even the bad things? Yes, even the bad things. But why the bad things? So that we would **know** that He is sufficient to meet all our emotional and physical needs.
2. **Every thing we have been given or not given in the present.** *I Timothy 6:6-9 tells us, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition."* Some of us harbor ungrateful hearts because we think we should have more things than we do. We think we should live in nicer homes, own finer clothes, go to fancier places, and eat more quality food. But God reminds us in this verse that we should be happy with the simple things that He gives us. Why? Because when we get too much, we are tempted to forget about Him and chase after sin.
3. **Every event that will happen to us in the future.** God provided the perfect example of how do deal with the future through the life of Paul when he said in *Philippians 4:11-13, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* Believe it or not, the greatest thing we can do to secure a satisfying future for ourselves is to be content with the present and deal biblically with the past. How do we deal biblically with our past? By learning from it, and not reliving it. How can we be content with our present? By accepting what we have, and not always looking for ways to get more.

As I close, I want to share with you a few things that you can do daily to strengthen your attitude of gratitude:

- ◆ Praise God daily for who He is and what He HAS done for you
- ◆ Thank God daily for the simple things in your life (name them one by one)
- ◆ Take your problems to the Lord and trust that He will do what is best with them
- ◆ Remind yourself regularly of the fact that **God is in control of everything**, and although many things may happen around you and to you that you don't like or understand, the Bible PROMISES us in Romans 8:28 "that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose."

**The women with the best attitudes in this world are not the ones that have been given everything, but those that have learned to be thankful for everything that they have been given.**

## ***The Secret to Developing An Attitude Of Gratitude***

*Let the past go, and be thankful you were able to survive it.  
Let the present be, and be thankful you are able to endure it.  
And let the future come, being thankful that you walk with a God that will give you the strength you will need to get through it.*